

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic device, comprising:
 - a CPU;
 - a location module coupled to said CPU; and
 - a communication unit coupled to said CPU;wherein said CPU receives a location value from said location module, determines a region of the world in which the electronic device is located based on said location value and configures a communication capability for the electronic device based on the determined region.
2. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said location module comprises a GPS receiver.
3. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein when said CPU configures the communication capability, said CPU configures the communication unit to operate in accordance with one of a plurality of communication protocols.
4. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein when said CPU configures the communication capability, said CPU configures the communication unit to operate in accordance with one of a plurality of transmission carrier frequencies.

1 5. The electronic device of claim 1 further including non-volatile memory coupled to said
2 CPU, said memory storing location information, said location information including location data
3 and communication configuration values pertaining to said location data.

1 6. The electronic device of claim 1 further including non-volatile memory coupled to said
2 CPU, said memory storing a look-up table having a plurality of entries, each entry pertains to a
3 different region and each entry includes location information and communication configuration
4 values pertaining to said location data.

1 7. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said location information in each entry comprises
2 a plurality of longitude values.

1 8. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said location information in each entry comprises
2 a plurality of latitude values.

1 9. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said location information in each entry comprises
2 a plurality of longitude and latitude values.

1 10. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said communication configuration values specify
2 a communication protocol.

1 11. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said communication configuration values specify
2 a transmission carrier frequency.

1 12. The electronic device of claim 6 wherein said communication configuration values specify
2 a communication protocol and a transmission carrier frequency.

1 13. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said region is a country.

1 14. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said location value received from said location
2 module comprises longitude and latitude values.

1 15. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said CPU receives said location value from said
2 location module when power is enabled to said electronic device.

1 16. The electronic device of claim 1 further including non-volatile memory coupled to said
2 CPU and containing code which can be accessed and executed by said CPU, said code includes
3 instructions permitting said CPU to configure the communication capability based on the
4 determined region in which the electronic device is located.

1 17. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said electronic device comprises a wireless
2 communication device.

1 18. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said electronic device comprises a PDA.

1 19. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said electronic device comprises a laptop
2 computer.

1 20. The electronic device of claim 1 further including a microphone and speaker coupled to
2 said CPU and wherein said electronic device comprises a cellular telephone.

1 21. The electronic device of claim 1 further including a modem and said communication
2 capability comprises the modem's frequency.

1 22. The electronic device of claim 1 further including a modem and said communication
2 capability comprises the modem's communication protocol.

1 23. An automatic method of configuring the communication capability of an electronic device,
2 comprising:

- 3 (a) receiving a location value pertaining to the location of the electronic device; and
4 (b) configuring a communication capability for the electronic device based on the
5 received location value.

1 24. The method of claim 23 further including determining a region of the world in which the
2 electronic device is located based on said location value and (c) includes configuring the
3 communication capability for the electronic device based on the determined region.

1 25. The method of claim 24 wherein said region comprises a country.

1 26. The method of claim 23 wherein (a) includes receiving a location value from a GPS
2 receiver.

1 27. The method of claim 23 wherein (b) includes configuring the electronic device to operate
2 in accordance with one of a plurality of communication protocols.

1 28. The method of claim 23 wherein (b) includes configuring the electronic device to operate
2 in accordance with one of a plurality of transmission carrier frequencies.

1 29. The method of claim 23 wherein (b) includes comparing said location value to a look-up
2 table of location and configuration data to determine in which region of the world the electronic
3 device is located and which communication capability works in that region.

1 30. The method of claim 29 wherein the location data in the look-up table includes a plurality
2 of longitude values.

1 31. The method of claim 29 wherein the location data in the look-up table includes a plurality
2 of latitude values.

1 32. The method of claim 29 wherein the location data in the look-up table includes a plurality
2 of longitude and latitude values.

1 33. The method of claim 29 wherein the configuration data in said look-up table comprises
2 transmission carrier frequencies.

1 34. The method of claim 29 wherein the configuration data in said look-up table comprises
2 communication protocols.

1 35. The method of claim 29 wherein the configuration data in said look-up table comprises
2 transmission carrier frequencies and communication protocols.

1 36. The method of claim 23 wherein (a) is performed upon powering up the electronic device.

1 37. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a wireless
2 communication device.

1 38. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a PDA.

1 39. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a laptop computer.

1 40. The method of claim 23 wherein said electronic device comprises a digital telephone.

1 41. The method of claim 23 wherein said communication capability includes a modem's
2 frequency.

1 42. The method of claim 23 wherein said communication capability includes a modem's
2 communication protocol.

